

VASHON PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING MINUTES

Ober Park, Performance Room, 7:00 pm

DATE: Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Commissioners attending: Karen Gardner, Scott Harvey, Bob McMahon, Doug Ostrom. Lu-Ann Branch was absent.

Staff attending: Jason Acosta, Elaine Ott, Robin Thomas

ISSUE	DISCUSSION AND OUTCOME	FOLLOW UP
Call to order & agenda review	The meeting was called to order by Karen Gardner at 7:00 PM. Karen reviewed the agenda. Doug moved to accept the agenda. VOTE: 4-0 in favor.	
Public Comment	<p>Capt. Joe: Low tide was a great success – about 800 people came and some were from Off-Island. We are grateful for our support from VPD. We have had school groups since then. We are flying the largest flag out there that we have ever had. The 181st Brigade for Cascadia Rising came to Pt. Robinson. We had a great time. We had children to soldiers to older people. Question: How are we coming on the survey?</p> <p>Elaine: We had our 1st meeting with Tom Beckwith. He told us things that we did not know we needed to know. He is very qualified. The survey committee, myself, Karen and Bob met. I followed up with a lot of material that he requested. He is going through a lot of material and drafting a preliminary report. The first draft is underway.</p> <p>Doug: What is the time line?</p> <p>Elaine: I think that he will come up with a draft in the next 30 days.</p>	
VIGA	<p>Elaine: Dan Carlson and Emily Scott are here from VIGA.</p> <p>Dan: We want to bring you up to speed on the Reimagine the Market project. We wanted to update you from the last time we were here. I want to give you a brief history. There was a group that sold at Village Green. After building the covered shed, the woman who owned the property decided to sell it. Within a couple of weeks we raised the money to buy it. We wanted to hold it in public trust. Part of the arrangement was that the Saturday market would remain. The shed accommodates about 8 growers. A couple of weeks ago we had 40 vendors. We applied to King County (KC) to get funding to expand it. We hired a UW team and came up with a report. It provides for a promenade market and is U-shaped. It is protected from the weather that could be built in increments. In July 2015, we gave a presentation and got some pushback. A VIGA committee looked at other alternates. This is not a project that the growers would do alone. This is an informational presentation.</p>	

Emily: The impetus came from a big stakeholder outreach. There is room for improvement.

Doug: Did you look at any other locations?

Dan: Initially we thought of alternative places, but the reality was straightforward: we already owned the place. The current location is favored. We reviewed safety, more vendors, etc.

Natalie: I am on the committee to springboard off the original idea. The report lists people on the committee. I will just cover what is on the front page of the report.

Vashon is undergoing a transformation. It is becoming a wedding and foodie destination. We want lots of infrastructure. We have the opportunity to take it to the next level. We envision a year-around facility. Currently, we are running Wednesday and Saturday markets. We are open during the summer, but we would be lockable in the winter. It could be rented out all year along. We would like it to earn income, but needs a commercial kitchen. We want a 40 thousand foot kitchen and 60 growers. We envision about 3-4k square feet. We could host weddings and banquets. It would be an iconic structure. It would show the importance of local food movement on the Island. We envision lots of wood, high ceilings, lots of light and a clock tower. I gave you two overhead ideas. The first one is set back and the second is u-shaped. It also shows street views.

Karen: parking is horrific on the weekends anyhow. What about additional parking?

Natalie: We are allowed to have reduced parking. People can park on the street. We have a parking reduction zone.

Doug: What do they do in the winter?

Natalie: It is smaller in the winter.

Cici: The physical therapy building is up for sale and there is a parking area behind the rock.

Karen: What is the expectation for funding?

Natalie: That's the next level. We will have three designs.

Dan: Your questions are useful. We did show our design to you so that contractors can arrive at costs.

Scott: I expect you will need 300-400k. It depends on volunteer labor.

Natalie: The design work is being dealt with from Island expertise. If we hit the right design, people in the community will be excited.

Scott: This issue should be included in the survey.

Jason: Will there be more restrooms?

Natalie: We could build more.

Jason: The lawn gets soggy from the rain.

Natalie: Oh yes.

Elaine: What is your timing goal?

Dan: The Fall.

<p>Board Motions</p>	<p>1) Bob: “I move that we approve \$3,300 be moved from the Maintenance Budget to the Admin Budget to allow for more hours for the part-time admin seasonal office person.” Doug seconded. VOTE: 4-0 in favor.</p> <p>2) Bob: “I move that we approve the changes that Elaine has made to the Access Fee Policy.” Lu-Ann seconded. Scott: I still disagree. We should have lined out the pool. Vote: 3-0-1 in favor.</p>	<p>VOTE TO MOVE \$3,300 FROM THE MAINTENANCE BUDGET TO THE POOL PERSONNEL BUDGET. 4-0 IN FAVOR. 16-22</p> <p>VOTE TO APPROVE CHANGES TO THE ACCESS FEE POLICY. 3-0-1 IN FAVOR. 16-23</p>
<p>Doug Ostrom Op Ed</p>	<p>Karen: I wanted to talk about the op-ed that Doug wrote. What do we want to communicate? My understanding was that we wanted to be cheerful: this is the new board, this is what we want to accomplish, survey coming up. I want to make sure everyone is on board.</p> <p>Bob: We need to fall back and decide what we think our priorities are. What changes are we trying to make? What is most important to us? Are we also looking at a huge master plan? That is fueled by the survey. We need to decide what they are, make a list of our priorities and how we communicate about them. Stand back and think about our op-ed.</p> <p>Scott: I agree with Doug’s op-ed. I served with Doug for the last two years on the Board. Unless I missed it, this is the first time Doug has stepped out. It could have been expanded more. We want to be positive, encouraging. I think it is important that there is a significant reality check. We are not able to do a lot of other things that deserve attention and there will not be for some time. It is going to be a slow process. I agreed with his op-ed.</p> <p>Karen: Yes, bad things happened, but we are moving on.</p> <p>Doug: I am constantly surprised about what people don’t know about the Park District. It was an effort to highlight a bunch of the properties. It is not just VES. We really have enormous budget problems. It is a hard case to make to the public. We have to make the public aware that we have a limited budget and that we are being</p>	

	<p>financially responsible. Scott: I have been waiting for the survey. Doug’s comment was a heads-up. Karen: Each board member is going to be writing something. The Board needs to approve it. Doug, add something about the survey. Capt. Joe: I haven’t read Doug’s piece. Do they know how we got dumped on? Many of those people need to take the survey. If we get 50% that will be successful. If we look ahead, we want the whole community to be involved. I will talk about it on my radio program. Bob: Make it forward looking rather than backward. Scott: He is dealing with what is happening today. Doug: I will send it out again. Bob: A lot of people who came to meetings were angry. We want people to be here because they want to be here.</p>		
<p>Paradise Ridge Fence Bid</p>	<p>Elaine: We went out to bid for the Ponies Against Pavement fence. This was approved for 10k last year. We carried it over. The bid went out; it was divided into two parts. Winning bid is 12k; a shorter fence, 8k. Technically, I could approve this but wish to be sensitive to the board’s expressed desire to require funding from user groups. Do we want to do the long fence or should the horse association raise the money? The longer one better serves the purpose of containing the horses. It is a containment issue. It is a bit safer for the longer fence. The longer fence is more aesthetically pleasing. Jason: The fence would prevent horses from taking off should a rider fall. Karen: If they have done 26k worth of fundraising, we can come up with the 2k. Scott: It is 20% more than we budgeted. I am concerned about other things coming up. I can see both sides of it. Bob: We have said several times that we are not going over budget. This would be a good time to start. Cici: How big a deal would it be to come up with it? Maybe split it with them. Bob: What would they suggest to us? Bruce Jackson: I agree with what Bob said. We are trying to establish new norms. Karen: I like the idea of the longer fence. What to do for the other 2k? Let’s talk with the horse community.</p>	<p>Elaine.</p>	
<p>Pool</p>	<p>Elaine: I have completed the KC grant application. The main drain issue needs to be dealt with immediately. We are non-compliant. There are two alternatives: 1) Pursue the permit right now, but not drain pool. Scott B. is thinking that this will work, and, 2) Orb architects are the go-to guys for non-excavating alternative. We don’t want the Department of Health (DOH) to shut us down. Scott and I feel we should do the proposal I have handed you. He spoke with a couple of pool people who have had this</p>		

	<p>problem. Scott: Joe was concerned that if we went for the grant and did not use it, we could look bad and someone else would not get it. My belief is that we might not use it immediately and that grant will not go to waste. Capt. Joe: If we accept the grant, we have to accept all the conditions. We have a bitter history. Elaine: Yes, with KC, we don't have good history. I have one piece of good news. It didn't feel right to me that we were given a pool with the assumption that it was compliant. I looked back at documentation. I contacted our insurance agent. He is coming next week. I need a motion to approve 5k. KC has lost our file. We have no recourse. We have nothing in writing. Bob: So moved. Also to suspend the rules. Doug: Second. VOTE: 4-0 to suspend the rules. VOTE: 4-0 in favor of the motion. Scott: When things like this come up, I would like information from the insurance company. Bob: Also, look at the cost of lesser fixes on the suction system.</p>	<p>MOTION, SECOND TO SUSPEND THE RULES AND TO APPROVE 5K. 16-24 VOTE TO SUSPEND: 4-0 IN FAVOR VOTE TO APPROVE 5K:4-0 IN FAVOR. 16-25</p> <p>Elaine.</p>	
<p>Subcommittee Reports</p>	<p>Karen: The Planning Committee has spent many hours going through the policies manual. The new ones we added were best practices we found at other parks. We have added several. From the old policy, the language still exists. Bob: This is a rewrite of the Board Manual. Karen: Eventually, we will look at administrative policies. Community Relations: Nothing to report. Finance: Nothing to report.</p>		
<p>Land Trust</p>	<p>Scott: I got back to the fields' people and they are all out of money. Can they do the labor themselves is the question. We are talking 11k. Jason: The stuff they did before is no longer straight. We need a professional contractor. I can get you material costs.. Don't be surprised if the material costs will be higher than before. It can come up with double. I don't know if they will sell us the material if we do it. We have 900 feet of fencing. Bob: One of my parks is Pt. Robinson park. I can report that the park is looking good. It is quite nice. Jensen Point – the boathouse is done. I think the cane people are pleased as is the Rowing Club. Jason: I have contacted some people there. The biggest maintenance thing is that the</p>		

	<p>hose isn't getting disconnected. All they have to do is do the quick-release spigot. It causes a leak.</p> <p>Capt. Joe: The Army graveled that whole trail as a thank-you for their use of the Island during the disaster exercise.</p> <p>Bob: The "V" is on the dock at Jensen Point.</p> <p>Karen: The horse community wanted to know about the property that somebody wanted to give away. The Land Trust is saying no to them. My understanding was that we didn't want it. I think that the property is not useful. The horse people say it is wet. The Land Trust didn't want it. If the Land Trust said no and then they asked us about it, I would want to not pick up another orphan property.</p> <p>Doug: I would like to know what the options are for use of the property. I don't know that we considered all the options.</p> <p>Bob: Maybe get something about that in the survey?</p> <p>Jason: We have paid the last three big water bills at Jensen Point. I sent an e-mail to the Jensen Point people to please disconnect the spigot.</p> <p>Scott: Can we get an update on orphan properties?</p> <p>Elaine: I will meet with Susan Loftland.</p>	<p>Elaine.</p>	
<p>Adjourn</p>	<p>Bob: I move that we adjourn.</p> <p>Scott: Second.</p> <p>Vote: 4-0 in favor of the motion.</p>		
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>June 28, 2016, 7:00 PM</p>		

Respectfully submitted by:
Mary Reeves